

LONDON, September 14th.
Startling evidence is expected before the Parnell Commission. Several Irish conspirators undergoing imprisonment in England, have offered to make disclosures with hope of obtaining a remission of sentence. These disclosures would relate to the dynamite conspiracy in America. It is believed these witnesses will be called in Parnell's action against the Times.

At the Doncaster racing to-day the Park Hill Stakes were won by Belle Mahone, Spice second, Fair Haven third. The Doncaster Cup was won by Grafon, Surbiton second, Stronv third. Roda had a walk over for the Doncaster Stakes.

HAVANA, September 14th.
The clerks of the confectionery La Guardia drank poisoned wine to-day with their dinner. Four of them are dead and two others are dying. It is thought the crime was a vendetta.

MEXICO, September 14th.
Washington Irving Bishop, the mind-reader, gave a seance to 200 prominent society people to-day. He made a wager of \$5,000 that he could tell the number of a bank note in the hand of Minister Mariscal, and won the bet.

ATHENS, September 14th.
There have been additional violent earthquakes at Vostiza, but no details are furnished.

ST. PETERSBURG, September 15th.
The Czar and Carolina refuse to receive Queen Natalie of Serbia.

OTTAWA, September 15th.
A sensation has been caused by Premier Mercer's speech on the independence of the province, to the effect that "Quebec dares Downing street or Ottawa to interfere further in Quebec legislation." He also denounced the vetoes of the Dominion government as inspired by English Protestant hatred of French Roman Catholics.

L'Electeur, the Premier's personal organ, openly threatens the secession of Quebec from the Canadian Union. The agents of the Quebec Government are promoting the movement, stated yesterday, of annexation to the United States. The trouble arises out of vetoes by the Federal Government of provincial acts for the conversion of the public debt and the creation of provincial courts. The Provincial Government has decided to proceed in defiance of the Federal authorities and the Imperial Government itself, raising the cry, "Quebec for the French," and "Provincial rights."

PARIS, September 16th.
A call will soon be issued for an International Socialist Congress to be held during the Exposition next year.

LONDON, September 16th.
Twenty-eight persons have been drowned by floods in the Tyrol. Many others are missing.

VIENNA, September 16th.
Explorer Holub believes that Stanley is safe unless he deviated from his route with the purpose of relieving Emin Bey and met defeat at the hands of the Mahdi's followers.

LONDON, September 17th.
The failure is announced of the Farrars, wool staplers of Halifax. Further suspensions at Bradford and Halifax are expected.

A Greek fleet has been ordered to the Aegean sea to protect the sponge fisheries against the Turks.

Sir John Pender recently laid before the Sultan a project to lay cable from Jedda to Yemen. It is stated that the Porte objects to the project, fearing an invasion of British influence.

BELOGRADE, September 17th.
The members of the Serbian Ministry have tendered their resignations. They will, however, retain their offices until King Milan returns to Belgrade.

VIENNA, September 17th.
Albert Reiss, a cotton printer factor at Liezen, has failed. His liabilities are 2,000,000 florins. All the Vienna banks are involved in the failure.

NEW YORK, September 17th.
Captain Van Gek, who just returned from the Congo country, states in an interview that he believes he himself is the man described as the "White Pasha," who is said to have been seen in the Bah-el-Gazel district. He says at the beginning of the year he had a number of conflicts with natives in the direction of Bah-el-Gazel.

A letter to the Tribune from Havana, bearing date of September 8th, gives particulars of the recent cyclone. It says for fifteen hours it raged, and wreaked fearful havoc to life and property throughout the island. It demolished the principal buildings of large cities, and wiped out whole towns situated near the railroad. The water flooded large districts of fertile land, richly planted with sugar, tobacco, fruit and vegetables, destroying valuable machinery on plantations and ruining crops.

On the seaboard heavy seas broke down wharves, and occasioned great losses to shipping and commerce, and loss of life to crews on board vessels in the harbor. In some cases vessels were carried half a mile into cities, whole blocks of houses and trees being battered down as the vessels cut a passage through the streets. Havana presented a novel sight. Its streets and public squares were piled high with the ruins of demolished buildings and debris of every kind, which gave the appearance of a bombarded city. Many streets in the northern part of Havana were submerged.

The number of lives lost throughout the city and country is variously estimated at from 500 to 1200. The loss to crops, buildings and shipping amounts to many millions.

LONDON, September 17th.
The Times has been knocked down by Parnell and the Irish party. The most important point demonstrated by to-day's preliminary proceedings is that the Judges fully recognize the importance of the so-called Parnell letters and will not flinch from making them the main issues of the investigation. This is precisely what the Times' lawyers were anxious to avoid, but from the conduct of the Judges to-day their protests will be of no use. Taken all in all the preliminary inquiry is merely a fishing trip, but the Parnell letters got most of the fish. The Times' lawyers deliberately dodged all questions relating to the individual member of the Irish party, or any individual member of the Irish party, but tried to scatter the responsibility for the alleged infamy over the whole organization here and in America. The gist of their case is given in the following pistolshot question from Sir James Hannen: "Do you propose to substantiate any of the charges?"

"We propose," answered Graham for the Times, "to give you all the information we can."

The Judge repeated the same question and got the same answer. He asked it a third time, and Graham said: "I propose to lay before you all the information we have, which we believe will tend to substantiate the charges and allegations which have been made."

Hannan—Which charges?
Graham—That I cannot tell. I am not in a position to tell your Lordship, but I shall lay before you your Lordship such evidence as we can. We do not make charges against any particular person, but we say the entire Irish organization has been acting in this way."

F. H. Gill, who was among the Irish members in court, gave me the following summary of the situation tonight: "The result so far is (a) monthly affidavits in the Irish party, and strong testimony of confidence of victory. The Judges seem to realize that they are standing in the glare of a searchlight with the eyes of the whole world upon them. They are judging a case as

important as the impeachment of Warren Hastings or the trial of Charles I. No matter what their personal predilections or politics may be, they are the necessity for caution and strict impartiality. That gives great strength to the Irish cause."

Parnell was in court nearly all day by the side of George Lewis. His pale, worn face clearly showed what a great strain the whole business is to him. The look of intense eagerness, almost amounting to an expression of fear, which he fixed on Hannen as the latter disposed of the vital points in the affidavits was the sad look on the face of a man who listened to words from the foreman of a jury which declared him innocent on a guilty.

After adjournment Parnell, Lewis, and Gill talked matters over in Sir Charles Russell's office. Gill told me afterward that Parnell expressed himself well satisfied with to-day's proceedings, and awaited the inquiry with complete confidence of vindication. No sub-commission will go to America yet. Hannen said the application was premature, and insinuated that Egan might be induced to come to England. The truth of the matter is that they expect to hear from Egan before the commission meets again, whether he will come or not. If not, a sub-commission will go to America. Both sides agree that Egan's testimony is vital, and Hannen agreed with them. This is another indication that the letters will be kept prominent, for that is what Egan's testimony is mostly wanted for.

The Irish party have practically gained a point toward Dillon's release, basing the application solely on the ground that it is necessary for him to prepare a defence. Dillon will have to stay another month in prison, but will get out under conditions three days before the commission meets on October 22nd, which is nearly four months before his sentence expires.

The commission appointed by Parliament to examine into the charges made by the Times against Parnell and other Irish members of the House of Commons, opened its sessions this morning. Representatives of the press occupied the bulk of the space, there being 200 reporters present, representing provincial, London, and American newspapers. Judges Hannen, Smith, and Day composed the commission. Sir Charles Russell and Henry Herbert Aquith, Liberal Member of Parliament, appeared for the Parnellites, and Ruegg for O'Donnell, while Graham and Attorney General Webster appeared for the Times.

Judge Hannen said the commission were directed to inquire into the charges made against certain members of the House and other persons in connection with the O'Donnell-Times case. The commission held that the inquiry should be restricted to the charges made as the cause of that action. Parliament also gave them, in addition to their power, all the powers invested in judges of high courts of justice. They proposed, in the first instance, to make inquiry as though it were an issue between O'Donnell and the Times, reserving to themselves the power to call anybody who might be able to throw light on the issue involved. The inquiry would be carried on in accordance with the rules of ordinary courts.

Application was made for permission for a representation of Scotland Yard by counsel. Judge Hannen said he would decide upon the application if it were found that the inquiry involved that policy.

Sir Charles Russell demanded that he be allowed to inspect letters and photographs bearing on the case, and that the commission order for discovery the documents upon the authority of which the Times charges were made. He asked that a commission be appointed to take evidence in the United States and that an order be issued releasing Dillon from jail, so he may give testimony before the commission. He claimed was a forgery.

Counsel for the Times agreed to produce certain letters, but objected to the commission issuing orders for the discovery of documents.

Parnell entered the courtroom while the discussion concerning the production of letters was proceeding.

Sir Charles Russell said he did not care to confine his application to two letters. He wanted to inspect all letters and documents referred to in the articles on "Parnellism and Crime."

Judge Hannen stated that he had not read them, and that counsel must inform the Court what was necessary as to guide them.

Sir Charles stated to the Court that one of the main charges published in the Times was that certain Parnellite members of the House were connected with an illegal association and were sharers in the crime of murder. All alleged proof of this charge was a letter in which Parnell approved of the fund, meaning the assassination fund.

Judge Hannen said the Times would produce all letters and documents. If the parties could not agree as to the production of the papers a commission would deal with the disputed points in the afternoon.

Graham then opened the case for the Times, and after a review of the "Parnellism and Crime" articles, he said it was now asked that the Times should state whence it derived its information. But, if it divulged its sources of information, the object of the commission might be defeated and its inquisitorial character lost.

Sir Charles Russell insisted that the case should not proceed until the commission decided the question as to the production of documents in the possession of the Times.

The Judges then adjourned to chambers to consider the question, and in a short time Judge Hannen returned to the courtroom. Judge Hannen asked, assuming the commission thought they had jurisdiction to order the discovery of documents, what restrictions Sir Charles Russell would claim.

Sir Charles stated he wanted to know in plain language if the Times charged Parnell or his associates with complicity in the Phoenix park murders.

Graham replied that the Times would produce evidence to substantiate all the charges it made in its articles, "Parnellism and Crime."

The commission again returned to deliberate, and on resuming the sitting Judge Hannen said: The commission, having considered the question as to whether it was empowered to order the discovery of documents, it was of opinion that it had power to direct such discovery. The commission would take upon itself the right to consider what documents it would be right for Sir Charles Russell's clients to inspect. The Court thought the details against the persons the Times accused ought to be given. The Court had determined to enter thoroughly into the inquiry and follow it out to the end.

The Times, however, made no objection to Dillon's release. He said two persons now in penal servitude for connection with the Phoenix Park murders would have to be brought before the commission. It will be desirable also to obtain the evidence of certain persons in the United States.

Judge Hannen said the application regarding American evidence, including that of Patrick Egan, was premature. In regard to Dillon, the Court would order his attendance when the inquiry proceeded on condition that he abstain from taking part in public matters and enter into recognizance in the sum of £1,000. After an order had been made for the inspection of the banker's books containing accounts of the National League, the commission adjourned until October 22nd.

Both sides profess not to be satisfied with the preliminary tussle before the commission. The Parnellites are able to claim an important success in enforcing the production of the Times letters including those of Parnell and Egan, and one written by Campbell, Parnell's secretary. Sir Charles Russell demanded the production of all other letters connected with the inquiry that are in possession of the Times. This wide demand has been met by arranging for the inspection of the Parnellite counsel. The Parnellites again scored by getting the Court to instruct the Times to formulate the definite charges it is prepared to prove, as well as allegations falling short of definite charges.

The decision relating to the discovery of documents combined with the Court's expression of its determination to make a thorough inquiry into the whole matter, tends in favor of the Times. The first result of the decision was Graham's getting the power of access to the banker's books of the League involving the right to inspect the accounts and minutes of both the Land and National Leagues. The Court's declaration that the widest scope would be given to the inquiry, opens up an interminable vista of contention. The question of the appointment of a commission to examine Egan and others in America was only touched upon. It will be raised definitely when the commission resumes; probably the suggestion of Graham that Egan come to London will be approved.

Sir Charles Russell stated that Parnell deemed Egan's evidence absolutely necessary, and in this view the Times concurs. As soon as the commission resumes, both sides will apply to the Court to grant a certificate of indemnity to Egan and other Irish-Americans, under ban, in order that they may be heard as witnesses.

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It is stated that a Japanese Consulate will be established shortly at Manila, and that Mr. Minami, Japanese Consul at Hongkong, will be appointed Consul.

A new steamer of 3,700 tons to be named the Nagasaki Maru, ordered by the Mitau Bishi She from Glasgow, has been completed, and Captain Trent, late of the Fuyo, left for England on the 2nd instant to bring her out.

The Takasago Maru will leave on the 30th September for the Hawaiian Islands, taking about 1,000 emigrants from Yamaguchi and Higashiuma Prefectures. It is stated that another batch of 1,000 emigrants will leave, about the middle of December next.

It has been decided by the naval authorities that in the case of war vessels to be constructed by the Naval Department will be named after the highest mountains or the most noted places in Japan, and the following names have been selected for the new vessels: *Anakusa Dan, Fujiyama, Kanakura, and Katsunatsu.*

The ceremony of christening the Princess born on the morning of the 30th ultimo, took place on the 6th instant in the Palace. Masako is the name conferred on her, but she will be generally known as Tsune-no-miya. Members of the Imperial family, Ministers of State and officials of *chokunin* rank in the Imperial Household visited the Palace and paid their respects to H.I.M. the Emperor.

Residents of Osaka have established an isinglass company, with a capital of yen 500,000, the export of isinglass having largely increased. Arrangements are being made by the promoters to commence business about March next. It is stated that the quantity of isinglass exported from Japan during last year was 1,480,000 lbs., of which 80,000 lbs. were for Europe, Canada, East Indies and Siam, and 140,000 lbs. for China.

During three months, ending last month, the number of foreigners residing at Yokohama, to whom passports were issued by the Kanagawa Local Government Office, was as follows:—

English 49
American 21
French 21
German 21
Russian 21
Danish 21
Portuguese 21
Total 493

English 49
American 21
French 21
German 21
Russian 21
Danish 21
Portuguese 21
Total 493

English 49
American 21
French 21
German 21
Russian 21
Danish 21
Portuguese 21
Total 493

English 49
American 21
French 21
German 21
Russian 21
Danish 21
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American 21
French 21
German 21
Russian 21
Danish 21
Portuguese 21
Total 493

English 49
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American 21
French 21
German 21
Russian 21
Danish 21
Portuguese 21
Total 493

English 49
American 21
French 21
German 21
Russian 21
Danish 21
Portuguese 21
Total 493

To-day's Advertisements.

PERSEVERANCE LODGE OF HONGKONG, No. 1165.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, THIS EVENING, the 16th instant, at 8.30 for 9 O'CLOCK precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited. Hongkong, 16th October, 1888. [1018]

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA. THE Steamship

"PATHAN" Captain Rowley, will be despatched for the above Ports, on the 22nd instant. For Freight or Passage, apply to ADAMSON, BELL & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 16th October, 1888. [1046]

PROSPECTUS. SINGAPORE HOTEL COMPANY, LIMITED.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE "INDIAN COMPANIES' ACT, 1866."

CAPITAL: \$750,000 (with power to increase), divided into 7,500 shares of \$100 each, payable as follows:—

\$20 ON APPLICATION. \$20 ON ALLIANCE. Further Calls not exceeding \$20 each, to be made at intervals of not less than three months. (It is not expected that more than \$55 per share will be called up before the end of 1889.)

If no allotment be made, the deposit will be returned in full.

Share Lists will CLOSE on 14th November, 1888.

DIRECTORS: WILLIAM ADAMSON, Esq., (Messrs. GILFILLAN, WOOD & Co.)

ANDREW CURRIE, Esq., (The BORNEO COMPANY, LIMITED)

WILLIAM DOUGAL, Esq., (Manager, CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.)

HON'BLE J. FINLAYSON, M.L.C. (Messrs. BOUSTAD & Co.)

J. P. WADE GARDNER, Esq., (Manager, HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.)

HON. H. W. GEIGER, M.L.C., (Agent, PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO.)

W. E. HOOPER, Esq., (Messrs. BEHN, MEYER & Co.)

THOS. SCOTT, Esq., (Messrs. GUTHRIE & Co.)

TH. SOHST, Esq., (Messrs. PUTTFARCKEN & Co.)

C. STRINGER, Esq., (Messrs. PATERNON, SIMONS & Co.)

BANKERS: CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA; HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

SOLICITORS: MESSRS. DONALDSON & BURKINSHAW.

SECRETARY (pro tem.) JAMES KERR, Esq.

HEAD OFFICE: SINGAPORE.

THIS COMPANY has been formed for the purpose of supplying the want which has been felt for many years past, of a well-planned and well-fitted modern hotel of sufficient dimensions, to accommodate the large and constantly growing passenger traffic through Singapore, as well as supply the great demand for temporary or permanent residential chambers.

Singapore is the chief town of the British Crown Colony of the Straits Settlements, and is a leading place of call and coaling port on the great steam lines of communication with the Far East. It is moreover the centre of an extensive trade with India, China, the Dutch Indies, the Philippines, Siam, and other countries.

The present hotel accommodation in Singapore is quite inadequate, and it is proposed to acquire the fine site now partly occupied by the Hotel de l'Europe, and build thereon a hotel of much larger dimensions, and greatly improved construction and arrangement. Fully detailed plans have been prepared and the engagement of a first-class Manager is already secured. Prospectus and Forms of Application may be had at any of the Agencies of the Company's Bankers, the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION and the CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA, or Mr. D. McCULLOCH.

A certain number of Shares will be reserved by the Directors for Allotment to Hongkong Applicants.

APPLICANTS FOR SHARES will have to pay 1 per cent extra for the difference in Exchange between this Port and Singapore. Hongkong, 16th October, 1888. [1917]

Intimations.

TO THE DEAF.

A 132 paged Illustrated Book on Deafness, Noises in the Head, how cured at your homes. Sent 6 Stamps. Address DR. NICHOLSON, 5, Old Court House Street, Calcutta. Calcutta, 26th September, 1888. [1044]

MACAO.

WANTED to purchase, in a good situation in Macao, Small FAMILY RESIDENCE commanding a sea-view. Price must be Moderate. Apply with full particulars, by letter only, to W. H., c/o Hongkong Telegraph Office. Hongkong, 25th September, 1888. [954]

FOR HIRE.

THE Fast Steam Launch "ELK" is always kept under steam of Pedder's Wharf and is at the service of the public for proceeding to and from Steamers, Picnics and Bathing Parties, etc. For particulars, apply to CRICKSHANK & Co., Ltd. Hongkong, 17th August, 1888. [101]

Intimations.

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED. ADJUSTMENT OF BONUS FOR THE YEAR 1887.

SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company are requested to furnish the Undersigned with a List of their Contributions for the year ending 31st December last in order that the distribution of the Profits reserved for Contributors may be arranged. Returns not rendered prior to the 30th day of November next, will be adjusted by the Company, and no claims or alterations will be subsequently admitted.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., General Managers, Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd. Hongkong, 15th October, 1888. [1045]

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE SEVENTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the Undersigned at 12 O'CLOCK (Noon), on SATURDAY, the 27th October instant.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 13th to the 27th inst., both days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., General Agents, CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED. Hongkong, 8th October, 1888. [1009]

HONGKONG RIFLE ASSOCIATION.

PROGRAMME OF THE SIXTH RIFLE MEETING.

TO BE HELD AT KOW LOON, ON

FRIDAY, the 9th November, and

SATURDAY, the 10th November, 1888.

AGGREGATE VALUE OF PRIZES.

Competitions open to All-comers.

1. ALL-COMERS.—1st Stage, distance 200 yards. 2nd Stage, distance 300 yards. No. of shots, seven at each. Entrance fee, 30 cents at each. Unlimited entries, but competitors not allowed to take more than one prize at each distance. 20 prizes, presented by the Association; aggregate value, \$122.00.

2. ANY RIFLE.—Distance, 800 yards. No. of shots, ten. Entrance fee, \$1.00. Two prizes.

3. ASSOCIATION.—FOR ANY RIFLE.—Distance, 900 yards. No. of shots, ten. Entrance fee, \$1.00. Two prizes.

4. CADET'S PRIZE.—Presented.—Open to pupils of Hongkong Public schools under 16 years of age. Rifle, Rook Rifle under 40 Cal. Distance, about 150 yards. No. of Rounds, 7 and one sighting shoot. Four prizes.

5. PRESIDENT'S.—Distance, 300 yards. No. of shots, seven. Entrance fee, \$1.00. Three prizes.

6. QUEEN'S 1ST STAGE.—Distance, 200, 500 and 600 yards. No. of shots, seven at each. Entrance fee, \$1.00. Three prizes.

7. QUEEN'S 2ND STAGE.—Distance, 500 and 600 yards. No. of shots, ten at 500 yards, fifteen at 600 yards. Two prizes.

8. QUEEN'S 3RD STAGE.—Distance, 800 and 900 yards. No. of shots, ten at each. Entrance fee, \$1.00. Two prizes.

9. LADIES.—Open to Lady Members or their nominees. Distance, 300 yards. No. of shots, seven. Entrance fee, none. Five prizes.

10. VOLUNTEER AGGREGATE.—Restricted to efficient Volunteers whose respective scores in the 'All-comers' make up the highest aggregate. Entrance fee, \$1.00. Three prizes.

11. CIVIL SERVICE AGGREGATE.—Restricted to members of the Civil Service whose respective scores in the 'All-comers' make up the highest aggregate. Entrance fee, \$1.00. Three prizes.

12. POLICE AGGREGATE.—Restricted to the members of the Police Force whose respective scores in the 'All-comers' make up the highest aggregate. Entrance fee, \$1.00. Four prizes.

13. ALL-COMERS' AGGREGATES.—For competitors whose respective scores in the 'Any Rifle' and 'Association' make up the highest aggregate.

